REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 23 and 24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-6, 11 and 19-21 are amended and claim 25 is cancelled. Support for the amendments can be found on page 18, line 1 - page 19, line 8, page 20, line 9 - page 22, line 10, and Fig. 6, for example.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,999,187 to Tanaka, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,594,031 to Taima. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of Tanaka and Taima does not disclose and would not have rendered obvious, a terminal-end storage commanding unit that stores, when the communication data is stored as the single data in the communication-end storing unit by the storing portion, the communication data into the terminal-end storing unit and that stores, when one of the plurality of the page-by-page data of the communication data is stored in the communication-end storing unit by the storing portion, the one of the plurality of the page-by-page data of the communication data into the terminal-end storing unit, as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action (page 4) acknowledges that Tanaka fails to disclose the above features, but cites Taima as allegedly overcoming the deficiencies. Taima discloses that image data designating a copier 12 is outputted from a PC 6 or a PC 8 and temporarily stored in a memory such as a hard disk of the image storage unit 22 (col. 5, lines 59-62). That is, the image data is stored in the image storing unit 22 when the PC 6 or the PC 8 outputs the image data designating the copier 12. Taima thus fails to disclose or suggest the terminal-end storage commanding unit of claim 1.

Applicant does not agree that the term single data is interpreted to just mean the whole image data, while the compressed data is interpreted to mean segmented data in response to the comments on page 11, lines 11-13 of the Office Action. In claim 1, a handling portion

handles communication data as a plurality of <u>separate</u> page-by-page data if a prescribed

storage condition is not satisfied and a storing portion that sequentially and <u>separately</u> stores

in a communication-end storing unit the plurality of page-by-page data of the communication

data if the prescribed storage condition is not satisfied. That is, one page data is independent

of the other page data. Thus, Taima's compressed data cannot be interpreted to mean the

plurality of separate page-by-page data.

Therefore, the combination of Tanaka and Taima fails to disclose or render obvious

the combination of features recited in independent claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully requested

that the rejection of independent claim 1, and its dependent claims 2-9 and 11, be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 10 and 12-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tanaka

in view of Taima, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No.

2004/0075866 A1 to Thormodsen et al. (Thormodsen). The rejection is respectfully

traversed.[1]

The combination of Tanaka, Taima and Thormodsen does not disclose and would not

have rendered obvious a terminal-end storage commanding unit that, if the terminal-end

determining unit determines that there exists description data stored in the communication-

end storing unit that is in the state that satisfies the prescribed storage condition, stores in the

terminal-end storing unit the description data stored in the communication-end storing unit, as

recited in independent claim 12 and as similarly recited in independent claim 23.

The Office Action appears to admit on page 10 that Tanaka fails to disclose the above

features, and pages 11 and 12 discuss only Taima. Taima discloses that a control unit 26

selectively fetches an information piece as to whether or not the copier 12 permits the change

to the image compression means from the printer information stored in a printer information

storage unit 20 (col. 6, line 14-18). The control unit 26 does not determine that the

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[1] Claim 22 was canceled in the May 26, 2009 Amendment.

information stored in the printer information storage unit 20 exists in a state that satisfies a prescribed storage condition. Taima thus fails to disclose or suggest the terminal-end storage commanding unit.

Further, Taima discloses that the image data compressed by an image compression means with the normal compression ratio is expanded in the bitmap memory of the image storage unit 22 (col. 6, line 2-5), and that the image data designating the copier 12 is compressed by the image compression means thus selected and expanded in the bitmap memory of the image storage unit 22 (col. 6, lines 31-35). In the Office Action (page 11, lines 20-22), the Examiner asserts that the copier 12 corresponds to the terminal device of claims 12 and 23. However, the image storage unit 22 is not provided in the copier 12 but in a printer control unit 2 (col. 4, lines 14-38). Therefore, the Examiner's assertion that Taima's copier device stores either the compressed data or the full image data depending on what is sent to it from the printer is unreasonable.
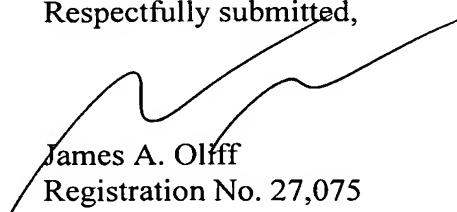
As should be obvious, the combination of Tanaka and Taima does not disclose and would not have rendered obvious all of the features of independent claim 19 for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to independent claim 1.

Thormodsen fails to overcome the deficiencies of Tanaka and Taima with respect to the features of independent claims 12, 19 and 23. Therefore, the combination of Tanaka, Taima and Thormodsen does not disclose and would not have rendered obvious the combination of features recited in independent claims 12, 19 and 23 and their respective dependent claims. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments:
      Request for Continued Examination
      Petition for Extension of Time

Date: July 16, 2010

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